

**BENSALEM TOWNSHIP
REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES**

January 2, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ed Kisselback (via speaker phone)
Joe Pilieri
Joe Knowles
Ed Tockmajian
Jessi Slone

ALSO PRESENT:

Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo
Joseph Pizzo, Township Solicitor
Ron Gans, Township Engineer
Debora McBreen, Council Clerk
Cindy Terlecki, Recording Secretary
Judge Joe Falcone
Judge Mike Gallagher

1. 2017 Council Vice President **Joe Pilieri** called the meeting to order and introduced Judges **Mike Gallagher** and **Joe Falcone**, and noted that they were on hand to swear in the newly elected and/or re-elected local officials.

Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo was sworn in by Judge Gallagher
Councilman **Joe Pilieri** was sworn in by Judge Falcone.
Councilman **Jessi Slone** was sworn in by Judge Gallagher.
Councilman **Ed Tockmajian** was sworn in by Judge Falcone.
Treasurer **Ray Wall** was sworn in by Judge Gallagher.
Auditor **Kathy Constantini** was sworn in by Judge Falcone.

Pizzo announced that Councilman **Kisselback** was not present at the meeting because he is stranded in Texas due to weather. However, he is with us on speaker phone and **Pizzo** stated this is allowed by law. **Kisselback** congratulated all elected officials and said he is participating in the Council Meeting.

Kisselback then turned the meeting over to **Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo** who presided over the meeting until a new Council President was elected.

2. **Public Comment:**

Mayor DiGirolamo called the meeting to order with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.; he then invited Public Comment on agenda items but no one came forward and the public portion was closed.

3. **Election of Council President:**

 nominated to serve as Council President and seconded the motion, with no other names put forward, the vote was called and was elected unanimously to serve as Council President for 2018

 thanked his colleagues for their support and praised **Kisselback** for a job well done as Council President in 2017, and those sentiments were echoed by his fellow councilmen.

4. **Election of Vice President:**

 nominated for Vice President and seconded, with no other nominations, the vote was called and was elected unanimously to serve as Council Vice President for 2018.

5. **Election of the Township Secretary:**

 nominated for Township Secretary and seconded, the vote was called and was elected unanimously to serve as Council Secretary for 2018.

6. **Election of the Assistant Township Secretary:**

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Debbie McBreen** to serve as the Assistant Secretary for 2018, motioned to approve and seconded, the vote was called and **Debbie McBreen** was elected unanimously.

7. **Appointment of a Court Stenographer:**

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Kimberly A. Bursner RPR, NJ.CCR. Pilieri** motioned to approve the mayor's recommendation, **Belfield** seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

8. **Appointment of the Municipal Clerk:**

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Debbie McBreen** to continue serving as the Municipal Clerk. **Pilieri** motioned to approve the mayor's recommendation, **Knowles** seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

14. **Code of Appeals Board:**

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Maryann Groninger** for a 3 year term, **Knowles** motioned to approve, **Belfield** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, the motion carried 4-0-1, **Judge Falcone** swore in member.

15. **Community Development Advisory Board:**

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Paul Girodano, Bill Tenuta** and **Mark Winokur** for 1 year terms. **Pilieri** motioned to approve, **Knowles** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, motion carried 4-0-1, **Judge Gallagher** swore in one member.

16. **Disabled Persons Advisory Board:**

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Nick Quattrone**, and **Loreen Cimino** for one year terms **Pilieri** motioned to approve and **Belfield** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, motion carried 4-0-1, no one from the board was in attendance.

17. **Drug and Alcohol Advisory Council:**

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Shane Axten, Rosemarie Angle, Lori Parker, Frank Schilling, Lenore Hope, Liz Bourne, Walter Arch, Vickie Faunce, Jean Pawlowski, John Woods,** and **Nancy McCarty** for 1 year terms, **Belfield** motioned to approve, **Knowles** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, the motion carried 4-0-1, **Judge Falcone** swore in 5 members.

18. **Economic Development Corporation:**

Moved to 11A

19. **Emergency Services Advisory Board:**

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Don Anderson, Fred Harran, Ron Harris, Joe Pilieri, Robert Race, Robert Sponheimer, Tom Topley,** and **Lance Morell** to serve one year terms. **Belfield** motioned to approve, **Knowles** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, the motion carried 4-0-1 no members were in attendance.

20. **Environmental Advisory Board:**

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Sandy Rogers,** and **Tony Stallworth** for 3 year terms **Belfield** motioned to approve, **Pilieri** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, the motion carried 4-0-1, no members were in attendance.

21. **Gaming Advisory Board:**

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Donna Patti, Steve Pers, Sonny Parikh, Walt Lesnevec, Peter Waitz, Joe Szafran 3rd**, and **Jayna Montalvo** to serve 1 year terms. **Pilieri** motioned to approve, **Belfield** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, the motion carried 4-0-1, **Judge Gallagher** swore in 5 members.

22. Impact Fee Advisory Committee:

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Deepak Dhawan, Shursih (Sunny) Patel, Tom Nevrotski, Mike Petra, Stacey Champion, and Jeff McCleary, Tanya Portillo** for one year terms. **Pilieri** motioned to approve, **Belfield** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, motion carried 4-0-1, **Judge Falcone** swore in 4 members.

23. Park and Recreation Advisory Board:

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Kathy Kisselback** to serve 5 year terms. **Belfield** motioned to approve, **Pilieri** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, the motion carried 4-0-1.

24. Planning Commission:

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Ed Tockmajian, Sr. and Joe Domzalski** to serve a 4 year term, **Pilieri** motioned to approve, **Belfield** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, the motion carried 4-0-1, **Judge Gallagher** swore in one member.

25. Senior Citizens Advisory Board:

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Alice Gresko, Robert Gale, Denise Schorle, Frank Zeidler, and Barbara Zeidler** to serve for 1 year terms, **Pilieri** motioned to approve, **Knowles** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, the motion carried 4-0-1, **Judge Falcone** swore in 3 members.

26. Shade Tree Commission:

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **David Bruno** to serve as Shade Tree Commissioner for 3 year term and he recommended **Virginia McKay** to serve as Shade Tree Warden for one year term. **Belfield** motioned to approve, **Knowles** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, the motion carried 4-0-1, no members were in attendance.

27. Vacant Property Review Committee:

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Bill Cmorey, Al Gougler, Ray Wall and Bob White** to serve one year terms. **Belfield** motioned to approve, **Knowles** seconded, with **Allen** abstaining, motion carried 4-0-1, no members were in attendance.

28. Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee:

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended one year terms for **Bruce Seimers, Joe Slemmer, Joe Trucks, Raymond Bates and Jim Pinto**. **Knowles** motioned to approve, **Pilieri** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, the motion carried 4-0-1, **Judge Falcone** swears in all five members.

29. Zoning Hearing Board:

Mayor DiGirolamo recommended **Joann Redding** for a five year term, **Belfield** motioned to approve, **Knowles** seconded with **Allen** abstaining, motion carried 4-0-1. **Mayor DiGirolamo** noted the **Joann Redding** was not able to make the meeting, she will be sworn in at a later date.

30. Other Business:

thanked the Judges for their time and the **Mayor** thanked everyone who volunteers their time, he said there were 2 openings, Shade Tree Commissioner and Shade Tree Warden, if anyone is interested to send a letter to the Mayor's office, he went on to say Bensalem is the greatest Township in the County.

thanked everyone who volunteers and is looking forward to a great year, he congratulated _____ and _____ on their appointments of Council President and Council Vice President.

Pilieri thanked everyone and added "Go Flyers"

Knowles thanked all the volunteers and said they do a lot, it is a big commitment and he went on to thank **Debbie McBreen** for the fine job she is doing as Council Clerk, he also said that Bensalem is the biggest small town, and he went on to thank **Kisselback**.

Kisselback thanked **Knowles** and the **Mayor** and all the volunteers, and he said Bensalem is the #1 Township in Bucks County.

31. Public Comment:

No one came forward at this time

32. Adjournment:

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was officially adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Terlecki